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DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission IDS filed on 04/01/10 has been entered.

Notice to Applicant

- This communication is in response to the RCE filed on 04/01/10. Claims 3-4, 57 and 78 have been cancelled. Claims 1-2, 5-19, 20-35, 36-56, 58-77, 79-82 are pending.
- The withdrawn claims 3-4, 57 and 78 have been cancelled by the Examiner.

Allowable Subject Matter

- Claims 1-2, 5-18, 19-56, 58-77 and 79-82 are allowed in light of Applicant's arguments.
- The drawings filed on 08/24/00 have been acknowledged and considered by the Examiner.

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6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VANEL FRENEL whose telephone number is (571)272-6769. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew S. Gart can be reached on 571-272-3955. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call

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800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Vanel Frenel/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3687

June 04, 2010